



Natural Resources Conservation Service
Wallace F. Bennett Federal Building
125 South State Street, Room 4402
Salt Lake City, UT 84138-1100

June 5, 2008

UTAH BULLETIN NO. UT300-08-15

**SUBJECT: LTP – WETLANDS RESERVE PROGRAM (WRP) INSPECTIONS AND
ONSITE REVIEW LIST**

Action Required by: December 31, 2008

Purpose: To provide guidance for completing annual WRP inspections and a list of WRP easements requiring onsite inspections during calendar year 2008.

Expiration Date: September 30, 2009

All WRP easements are to have annual inspections to check for possible easement violations, with onsite inspections being completed at least every third year. In years when there is no onsite inspection, the evaluation will be by remote sensing. Remote sensing inspections may be completed by using current photography and a WRP easement boundary layer that is available in ArcMap. If the remote sensing inspection identifies activities affecting vegetation or hydrology, an onsite visit may be necessary. In addition, annual onsite inspections are required where restoration work is not complete and where violations have occurred.

Please follow the guidance given in the Conservation Programs Manual (CPM), Part 514-WRP, Subpart G, Sections 514.47(d), (e), (f), and (g) for completing annual inspections. Note also, that ownership of land encumbered by a WRP easement is to be verified annually. Ownership verification needs to be done on all WRP easements, not just those selected for onsite inspections. Ownership can be validated through discussions with the owner, verification from the Farm Service Agency, or review of courthouse records.

Field offices will schedule the required inspections (remote sensing and onsite). **The attachment lists this year's required onsite inspections.** If a site visit to an easement listed for an onsite inspection has occurred, and sufficient information is documented from that visit, an additional trip is not needed.

Field offices will inform landowners of the onsite inspections to give them an opportunity to participate. A sample letter has been attached, for this purpose. All inspections, whether onsite or by remote sensing, will have a WRP Monitoring Checklist completed. A WRP Monitoring Checklist is also attached.

ASTC-FOs shall ensure that coordination with technical and programs staff occurs. Send completed WRP Monitoring Checklists to Karen Fullen, State Biologist, via the area office by December 31, 2008.

Contact: Lisa Coverdale, Assistant State Conservationist-Programs at 801-524-4565, or Karen Fullen, State Biologist at 801-524-4566.

SYLVIA A. GILLEN
State Conservationist

Attachments

Distribution: ACs
Karen Fullen, State Biologist
Tim Julander, Resource Conservationist